## **HOUSE BILL 972**

## By Rogers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, relative to the department of children's services.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

- (a) The department shall maintain staffing levels of case managers so that each region has enough case managers to allow caseloads to be at not more than:
  - (1) Twenty (20) active cases relating to initial assessments, including investigations of an allegation of child abuse or neglect; or
  - (2) Twenty (20) children monitored and supervised in active cases relating to ongoing services.
- (b) The department shall comply with the maximum caseload ratios described in subsection (a).
- SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.